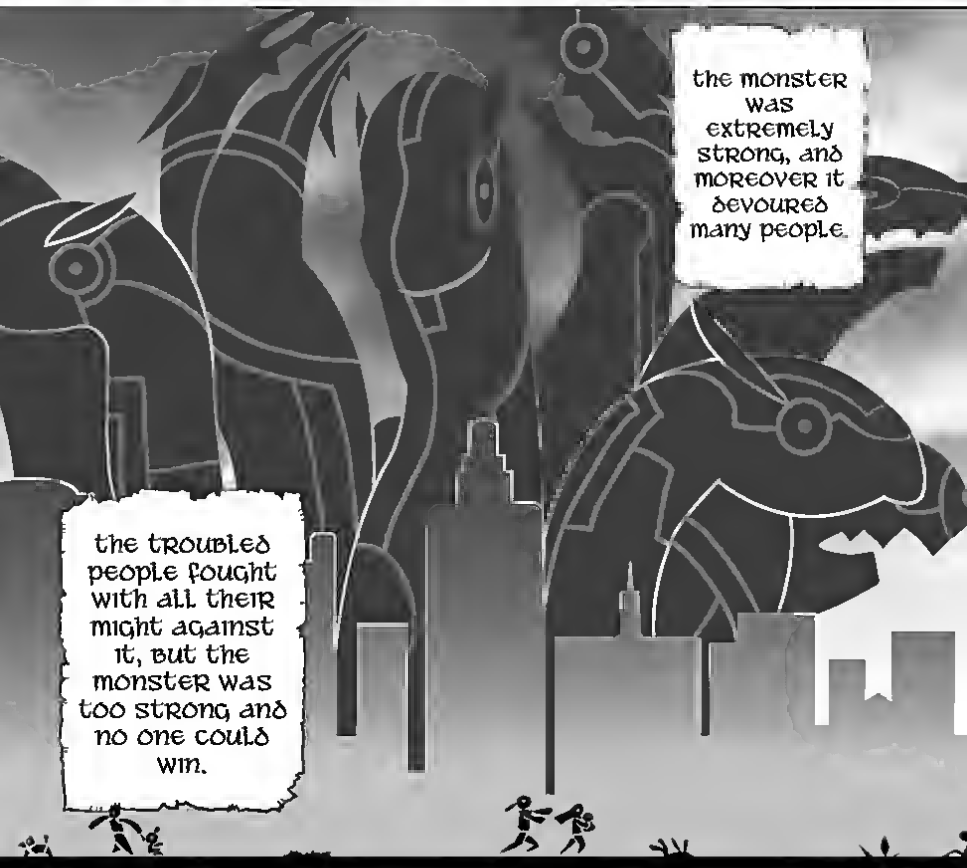
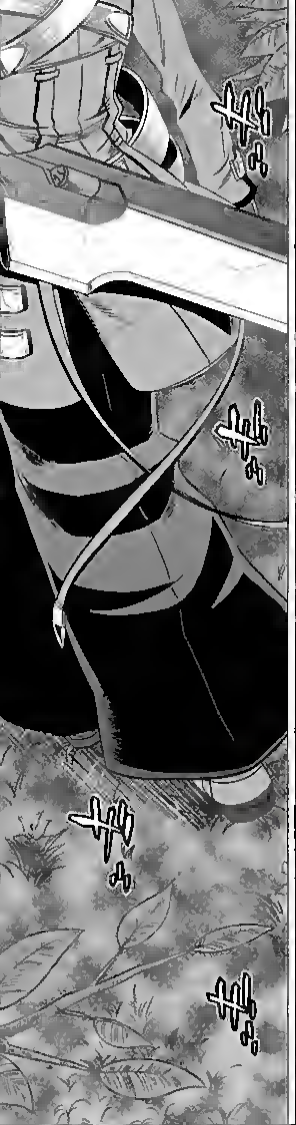
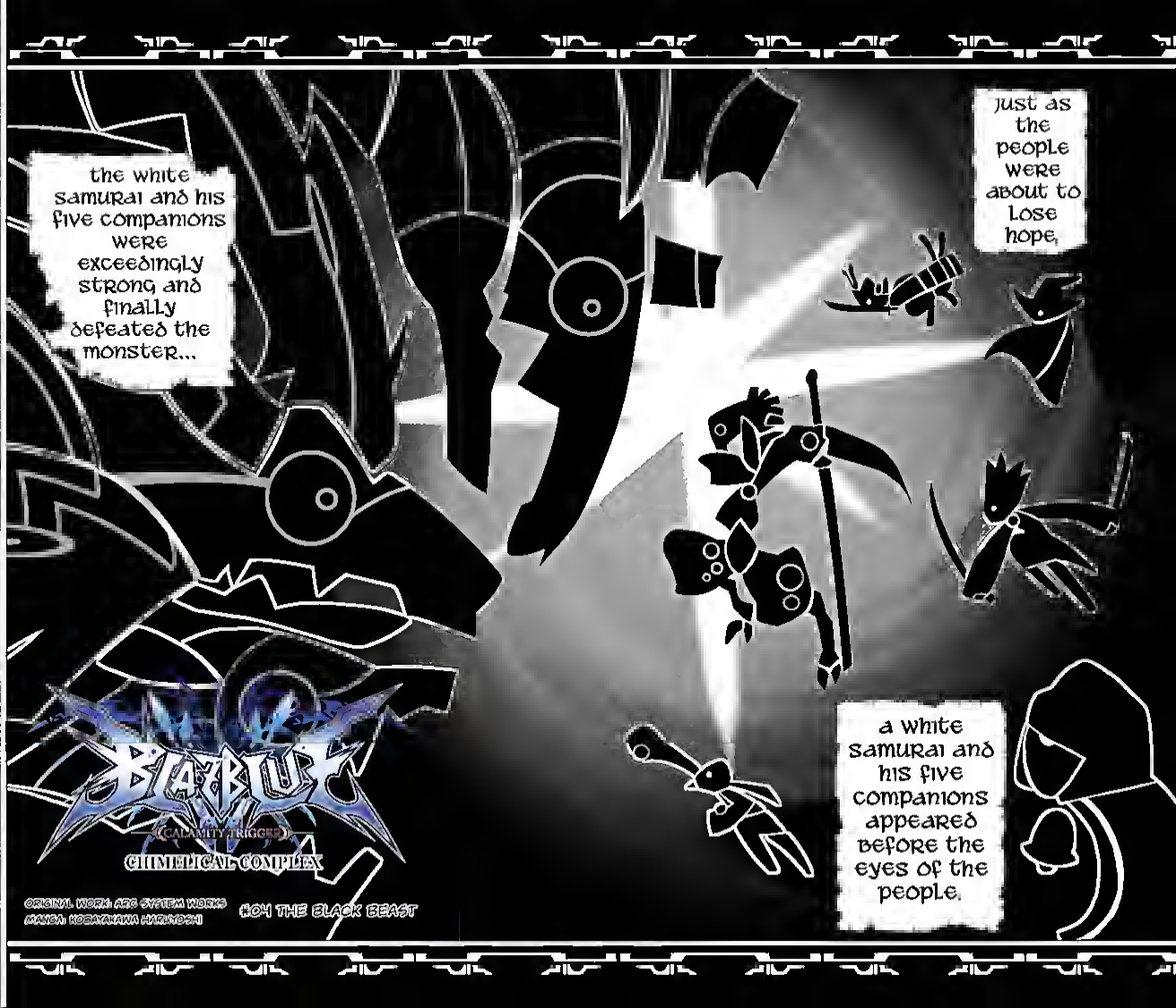
a long, long time ago...

a jet black monster appeared.


the monster was extremely strong, and moreover it devoured many people.
the troubled people fought with all their might against it, but the monster was too strong and no one could win.




the white samurai and his five companions were exceedingly strong and finally defeated the monster...
just as the people were about to lose hope,
a white samurai and his five companions appeared before the eyes of the people.
BLAZBLUE
CALAMITY TRIGGER
CHIMERICAL COMPLEX
ORIGINAL WORK: ARC SYSTEM WORKS
MANGA: KOBAYAKAWA HARUYOSHI
#04 THE BLACK BEAST

THE 13TH HIERARCHICAL CITY -KAGUTSUCHI-
AREA NO. 19 ORIENT TOWN
...AND SO,
OHHH
NEOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I THINK I MAY HAVE HEARD IT BEFORE SOMEWHERE, MEOW.
THAT IS HOW THE FAMOUS STORY GOES. IT'S EVEN BEEN MADE INTO A PICTURE BOOK.
EHHH?
ALTHOUGH WHAT I JUST TOLD YOU IS THE ABRIDGED VERSION.
THIS STORY IS WHAT REALLY HAPPENED IN THE PAST.
TOWN DOCTOR
LITCHI=FAYE=LING

ITS BODY WAS MADE UP OF HIGH DENSITY SEITHR, AND IT EXISTED ONLY TO ABSORB LIFE FROM THE LIVING.
THE JET BLACK MONSTER WAS CALLED...
THE BLACK BEAST.
5
? ? ?
SEE-TER?
AB-ZORB?
OF COURSE, THE PEOPLE WHO WERE UNDER THE ASSAULT OF THE BLACK BEAST FOUGHT BACK FRANTICALLY.
...HOWEVER, SOON ALL OF THEM HAD FALLEN BEFORE ITS TEETH
AT THAT TIME, THE ONES WHO SUDDENLY APPEARED WERE...

THE WHITE SAMURAI AND HIS FIVE COMPANIONS.
THEY'RE NOW KNOWN AS THE SIX HEROES.
HMM-MMM.
6
THEY USED SEITHR AS A CATALYST TO COMPLETE ARMAGUS FOR THE PEOPLE TO USE.
DON'T YOU THINK THAT USING THE ENERGY FROM THE BLACK BEAST ITSELF TO POWER THE WEAPONS WAS SUCH AN INSPIRING IDEA?

I DON'T REALLY GET IT,
BUT THAT'S AWESO-ME, MEOW!
YES.
AND THEN, WITH THE COMBINED MIGHT OF THE 6 HEROES AND THE POWER OF ARMAGUS,
HUMANITY FINALLY TRIUMPHED OVER THE BLACK BEAST AND DEFEATED IT.
HURRAY, MEOW! AND THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER!
OH!
HOWEVER

AT THE SAME TIME, THE BLACK BEAST RELEASED A LARGE AMOUNT OF SEITHR THAT COVERED THE WORLD
MEW?
IF THERE'S LOTS OF SEITHR, DOES SOMETHING BAD HAPPEN?

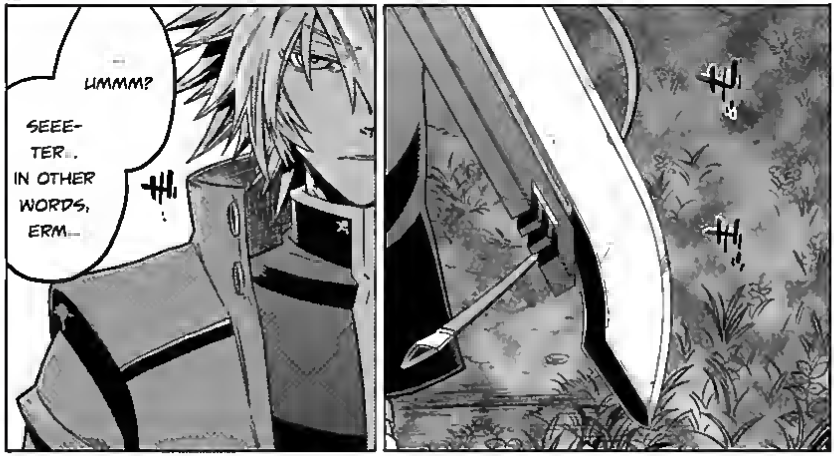
THE BLACK BEAST'S SEITHR, WHICH ABSORBS THE LIFE FORCE OF LIVING CREATURES, HAD BEEN SPREAD ALL OVER
IN SMALL QUANTITIES, SEITHR IS HARMLESS HOWEVER PROLONGED EXPOSURE TO LARGE DOSES WILL HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON LIVING CREATURES

BECAUSE OF THE CONSTANT HIGH LEVELS OF SEITHR, THE ECOSYSTEM UNDERWENT CHANGES
THE ONCE NATURAL WORLD STARTED SHOWING THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF SEITHR EXPOSURE
AND THAT IS THE REASON WHY THE BLACK BEAST WAS SUCH A FEARSOME CREATURE.
...??
EHHHHHH...

EVEN NOW, THERE ARE SIGHTINGS OF STRANGE CREATURES ON THE GROUND WHICH IS OVERFLOWING WITH SEITHR
!?
ORAAAAAAAAAA!!

HUH?
TAO AND EVERYONE IN THE KAKA VILLAGE STAY ON THE GROUND, RIGHT, MEOW?
BUT NOTHING'S HAPPENED TO US, RIGHT?

TAO AND THE REST OF THE KAKA CLAN... HAVE A NATURALLY HIGH RESISTANCE AGAINST SEITHR.
...THAT'S RIGHT.


UMMM?
SEEE-TER... IN OTHER WORDS, ERM...

IT'S BEEN ATTACKING TAO'S VILLAGE AND EATING SOME OF THE KITTENS, MEOW!
THEN... WHAT ABOUT THE BLACK SQUIGGLY, MEOW?
うぬ
うぬ
WELL, ABOUT THAT... I DON'T REALLY KNOW.
I SEE.
13
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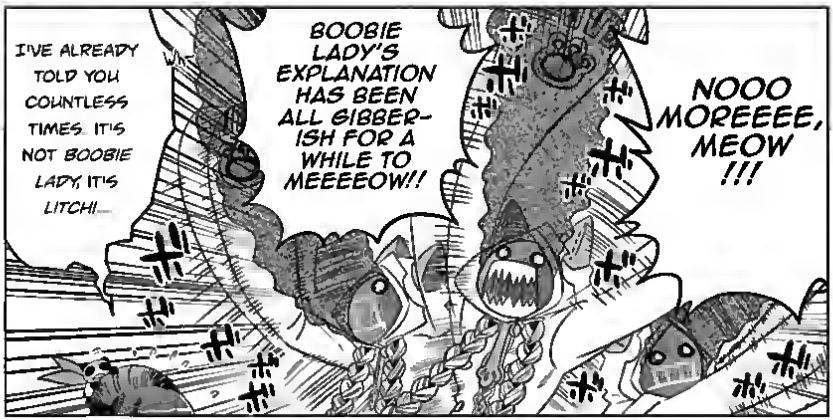
PRESENTLY, TO ESCAPE THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF SEITHR, HUMANITY MOVED TO HIGHER LOCATIONS...
AND NOW LIVE IN *HIERARCHICAL CITIES.*
THESE HIERARCHICAL CITIES AND THE ARMAGUS THAT MAKE USE OF SEITHR
HAVE BECOME INDISPENSIBLE TO THE HUMANITY OF TODAY

THE INVENTION OF ARMAGUS WAS HERALDED AS THE GREATEST DISCOVERY OF THE CENTURY
AND THE WISE PERSON WHO RESCUED THE WORLD WITH HER INVENTION WAS ONE OF THE SIX HEROES THAT AIDED HUMANITY...
HM?
IT'S A TECHNIQUE THAT RUNS ON SEITHR TO GENERATE LARGE AMOUNTS OF POWER
I just read that a little while back.
WHAT IS THIS ARM MAGIC THINGY...?
... LEEET'S SEE
WAS TODAY'S LESSON TOO DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND...?
T-TAO... IS EVERYTHING OKAY?
WHA!?
Don't play with the book.
AND THEN THE ARMAGUS WE WERE TALKING ABOUT WAS...
MEOW?
HM...

KNOWN AS
THE
AZURE
GRIMOIRE.

TAO!!?


I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU COUNTLESS TIMES. IT'S NOT BOOBIE LADY, IT'S LITCHI...
BOOBIE LADY'S EXPLANATION HAS BEEN ALL GIBBERISH FOR A WHILE TO MEEEEOW!!
NOOO MOREEEE, MEOW !!!

Then why did you tell me all that, meoooow!!!

UH... YOU KNOW, TAO, GRIMOIRES AREN'T ALWAYS IN THE SHAPE OF A BOOK
AND IF TAO BECOMES STRONG, WILL TAO BECOME A VIGILANTE !?
AND SO WHAT ABOUT IT, MEOW!? IF I READ THAT GRIMOIRE, WILL I BECOME STRONG, MEOW!?

WILL IT BE THE SAME?
...OR PERHAPS...
...THIS TIME, AS WELL.

"...DON'T EVER MISTAKE THE BLAZBLUE'S POWER AS YOUR OWN."

...I...
WITH THIS POWER...
MY POWER...
THE MORE THEY KNOW ABOUT IT...
THERE ARE NO EXCUSES!
JUST THE DESTRUCTION OF THE LIBRARY.

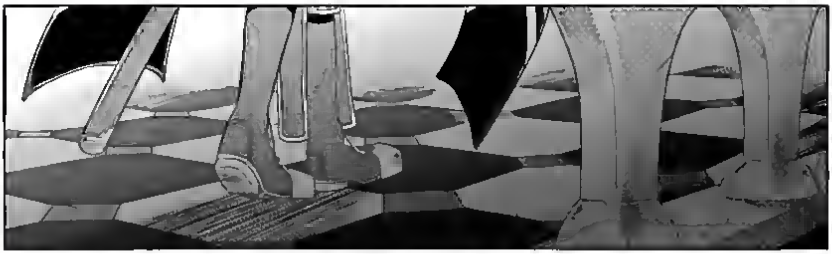
I GUESS IT'D BE BETTER IF THEY DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ITS EXISTENCE...

MASTER
...
I DON'T KNOW
...A UKE
AZUKE!
I AM...
TE T.....

... A MERE SHADOW OF YOUR FORMER SELF, HUH..
...DAMMIT, WHY THE HELL IS EVERY-ONE...
GU-HYA HYA-AHA HAAHA AHA HAHAA AAH HHHAA HA AHHHA HA AHAHA HAHA HAHAH AHAHA
AZURE ...!
HAND OVER TH AZUU U UUUUUU UU UUUR EEEE!
NO DIE IT
H NO IT D R TO ME
TH T THIN YO R FU ED ON
... KUHHH...
KUHYAHYA- HYAHYA- HYAHYA!!!

THAT'S EXACTLY THE SAME PHENOMENON AS *THE BLACK BEAST!*
HE TRIED TO COMBINE THE AZURE GRIMOIRE AND THE BLACK BEAST!

WITHIN THE HIERARCHICAL CITY, HEADING TOWARDS THE VARIOUS EXPECTATIONS INSIDE.



HURRY, I WANT TO SEE YOU, BROTHER...

DURING THE DARK WAR, ONE OF THE SIX HEROES CALLED NINE CREATED THESE ARMA-MENTS...
THAT'S RIGHT. GRIMOIRES FASHIONED INTO THE SHAPE OF WEAPONS... I GUESS YOU COULD THINK OF IT THAT WAY...
NOX NYCTO-RES?

ARMAGUS, GRIMOIRE, NOX NYCTORES, AND THE BOUNDARY'S POWER...?

HA-HA-HA
HAH...
HA-HA
2
...SO YA FINALLY GRASPED THE BASICS OF ARMAGUS, HUH?
THE BLAZBLUE IS AKIN TO THE CIRCLE OF LIFE...
--HO... I GUESS YOU OUGHTA PERCEIVE IT BY YERSELF.
AND THEN...
THERE'S THE BOUNDARY.
HA AH
HA
... HUH?
ONE DAY YOU'LL HAVE TA COME FACE TA FACE WITH IT. AND THEN YOU'LL UNDERSTAND.

IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE,
MR. ONE-EYED LOTUS.
WELL, IT'S HONESTLY NOT MY SPECIALTY, EITHER.
BLAZBLUE
メモリアルコンプレックス
ORIGINAL WORK ARC SYSTEM WORKS
MANGA TKOBAYAKAWA HARUYOSHI
#05 NOEL=VERMILLION

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AZUKE
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AZUR
A URE!
Z RE!
GALINT
LET
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AZU E!
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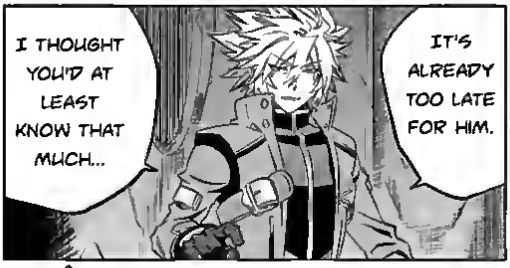
ゴゴゴゴ

...Oi!?
Gii!
8

I'VE GOT NOTHING AGAINST YOU, BUT...
AAH
...AH
A URE
ZU E
...WANT...
UU U UU U
THE VERY LEAST I CAN DO
IS TO PUT YOU OUT OF YOUR MISERY.

...
WAIT!!
I'LL DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS PERSON!
SO, PLEASE!
DON'T KILL HIM NOW..!

WHY IS EVERYONE ALWAYS MESSING WITH THE BOUNDARY..!?
... THIS FEELING
YOU, TOO..?


I THOUGHT YOU'D AT LEAST KNOW THAT MUCH...
IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE FOR HIM.

ドォ…
ゴォ…
... HEY, YOU.
YOU DO KNOW WHAT THAT THING IS RIGHT?

THERE HAS TO BE SOMETHING THAT CAN BE DONE..!
... I KNOW.
BUT... SOME-HOW..!

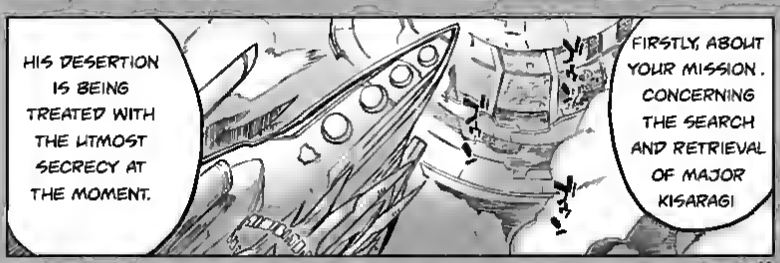
TCH.
チキ
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.
... BESIDES! THE ONE WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING IS YOU AS WELL!
YOU'RE RAGNA THE BLOODEDGE, RIGHT!? AND YET YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THE BLAZBLUE!

IS THAT ALL?
TO DESTROY THOSE THINGS THAT COULDN'T BE DESTROYED.

ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT, I GOT IT!
...AHHH, GEEZ.
.....
IT MAKES ME FEEL LIKE SOME SORTA BAD GUY.
DON'T GIMME THAT LOOK.
...
I'M OFF, SO THAT DIRTY RAG IS ALL YOURS
YEAH, YEAH, FEEL FREE TO THINK WHAT YOU WANT.
...BUT AREN'T YOU THAT WANTED CRIMINAL?
13
IF YOU'RE GONNA THROW HIM AWAY MAKE SURE YOU DO IT ON THE FLAM-MABLE TRASH DAY.
...wait, is he living trash?

YOU'RE PRETTY NICE.
... THANK YOU.
14
ガシャ
.. SAVE IT..
たっ たっ たっ たっ たっ
EXCUSE ME.
BUT MIGHT YOU BE LIEU-TENANT NOEL VERMILLION BY ANY CHANCE?
Hah
Ha!

I HAVE ORDERS FROM THE HIGHER COMMAND TO BRIEF YOU ON THE CURRENT SITUATION.
I'M HAZAMA FROM THE INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT.
AH, YES, THAT'S ME..
Greetings, greetings.
YES.. IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU..


FIRSTLY, ABOUT YOUR MISSION. CONCERNING THE SEARCH AND RETRIEVAL OF MAJOR KISARAGI
HIS DESERTION IS BEING TREATED WITH THE UTMOST SECRECY AT THE MOMENT.

FOR THE "HERO OF IKARUGA" TO SUDDENLY ABANDON HIS POST AND MOVE ON HIS OWN...
QUITE FRANKLY, THIS SUDDEN STATE OF AFFAIRS DOES NOT FILL US WITH OPTIMISM.
MAJOR KISARAGI...

AND FOLLOWING THAT, A LEVEL D ALERT HAS BEEN ISSUED FOR THE HIERACHICAL CITY OF KAGUTSUCHI...
ON AN UNRELATED NOTE IT SEEMS A FAIR NUMBER OF VIGILANTES HAVE GATHERED IN THE CITY AS WELL
IT APPEARS THAT NEWS OF THE GRIM REAPER'S APPEARANCE HERE HAS TRIGGERED THEIR ARRIVAL, PRESUMABLY FOR THE BOUNTY ON HIS HEAD...
16
SECTOR SEVEN.
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE THEY HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH US, BUT... THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THEIR PRESENCE MIGHT OBSTRUCT YOU IN YOUR MISSION
AND THEN OUR BIGGEST PROBLEM...
WHY THEY HAVE INFILTRATED KAGUTSUCHI IS UNKNOWN FOR NOW...
BUT THEIR REASON FOR BEING HERE IS DEFINITELY NOT FOR LEISURE...

I HOPE YOU'RE PAYING CLOSE ATTENTION TO ALL THIS
?
IS SOME-THING WRONG, LIEUTEN-ANT?
IS THERE A POSSIBIL-ITY
THAT THE MAJOR'S DESERTION IS RELATED TO SECTOR SEVEN SOMEHOW...?
YES.
AND THERE'S ALSO THE PART ABOUT IKARUGA, TOO.
REALLY.
IF WE ALL WERE TO STOP USING ARMAGUS,
THEN THE WORLD WE HAVE NOW WOULD HAVE NEVER BEEN BUILT.

WELL THEN, I'LL BE TAKING MY LEAVE HERE...
AH, NO. PERHAPS I SHOULD SAY I'LL BE INFIL-TRATING THE CITY.
ONE MORE THING
ABOUT MAJOR KISARAGI'S NOX NYCTO-RES...
...AH, THAT'S RIGHT.
THERE'S THIS UNPLEASANT FEELING IN MY CHEST.
TO SAY SUCH A THING SO CASUALLY
WHAT WAS THAT?

JUST WHERE DID YOU.
MAJOR...
たっ
たっ
KYAAAAA
ゴロ-
ゴロ-
AAAAAAAAH
19
I WAS DISTRACTED FOR A MOMENT, AND...
!!
...AH... I... I'M SO SORRY!
ばっ

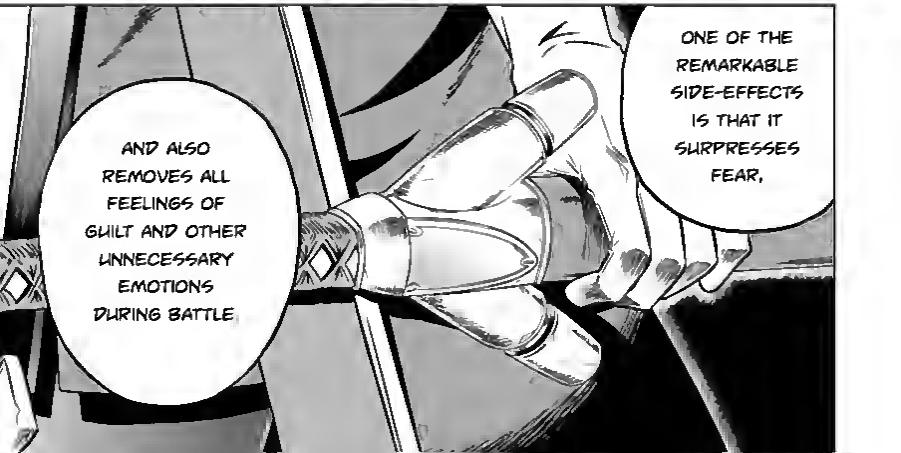
TH... THIS MAN IS!?
WH-... WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!?
THAT UNI-FORM..
A SOLDIER OF THE LIBRAR-IUM?

..MY BUSINESS HERE HAS GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.
NO.
THE LIBARIUM HAS ALREADY ISSUED A LEVEL D ALERT.
THERE'S NO WAY SOMEONE FROM SECTOR SEVEN WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS.
OH?
YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?
EVERYBODY KNOWS THE RED DEVIL FROM SECTOR SEVEN.
BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, A LEVEL D WARNING MEANS THE ANTI-INTERVENTION ACT IS IN EFFECT!
YOU MUST LEAVE HERE AT ONCE..!

WE AT SECTOR SEVEN DON'T TAKE ORDERS FROM THE LIBRARY.
UNFOR-TU-NATELY,
23
I SEE
IN THAT CASE,

I WILL HAVE NO CHOICE
BUT TO DETAIN YOU...
...
I DISLIKE FIGHTING POINTLESS BATTLES, BUT...
... THAT'S RIGHT.
ABOUT MAJOR KISARAGI'S NOX NYCTO-RES
HAVE YOU ACTUALLY SEEN IT BEFORE WITH YOUR OWN EYES?

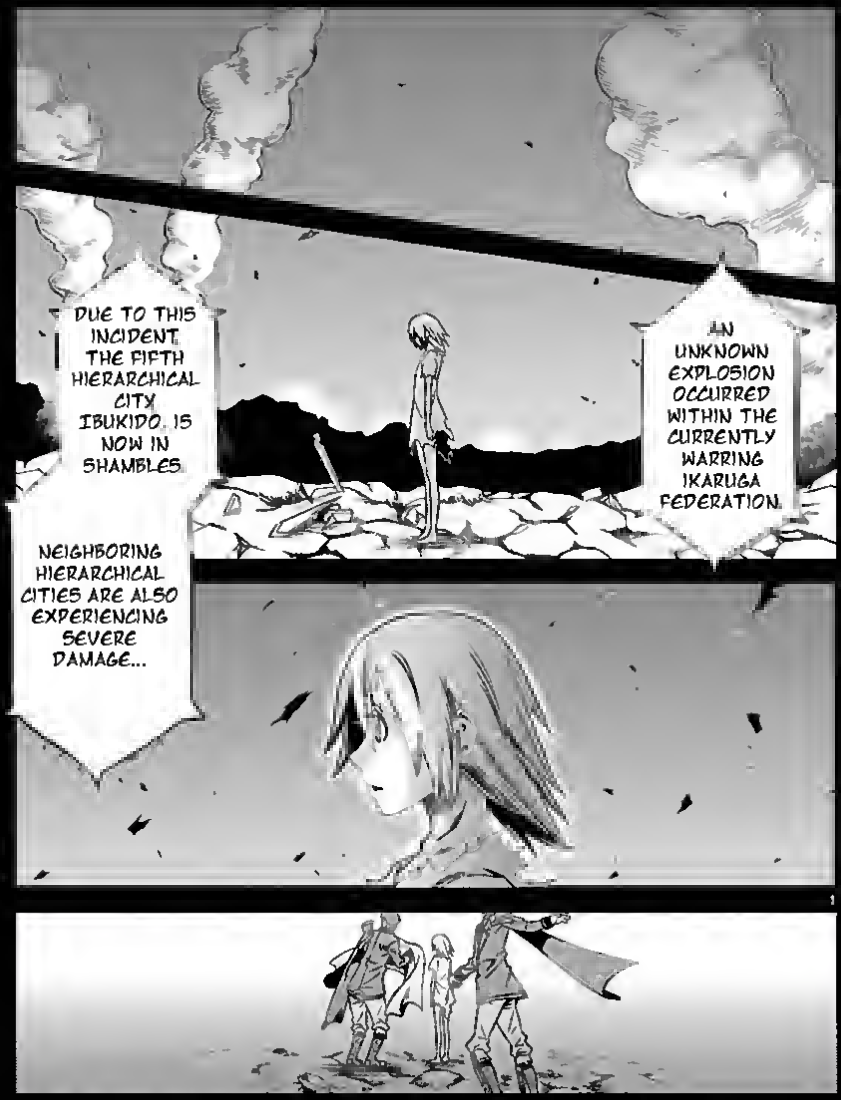
IT'S THE SAME AS THAT THING OF YOURS.
THE WIELDER'S SPIRIT UNDERGOES SOME SORT OF INFLUENCE WHEN USING IT...
MUCRO ALGESCO YUKIANESA ...RIGHT?
I HAVEN'T, BECAUSE IT'S CURRENTLY KEPT AT...
THAT'LL BE ENOUGH. ...IN ANY CASE,
AS EXPECTED, ONLY SOMETHING CREATED DURING THE DARK WAR WOULD HAVE THAT SORT OF EFFECT.
...!!


ONE OF THE REMARKABLE SIDE-EFFECTS IS THAT IT SUPPRESSES FEAR,
AND ALSO REMOVES ALL FEELINGS OF GUILT AND OTHER UNNECESSARY EMOTIONS DURING BATTLE.

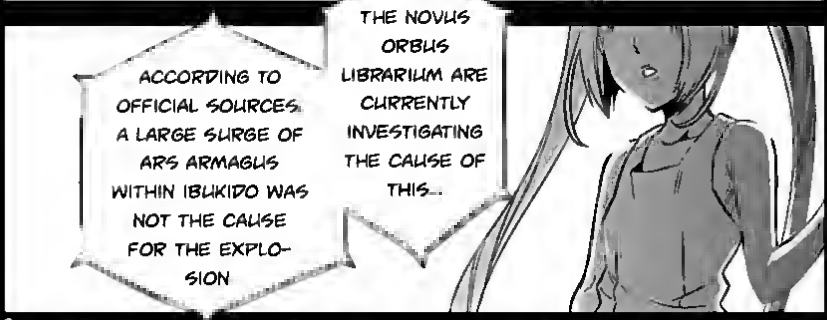
FOR THAT REASON.. SINCE YOUR TARGET IS ALSO KNOWN AS THE HERO OF IKARUGA,
YOU SHOULDN'T HOLD BACK ON YOUR ATTACKS
... YES..
..UM
HOW DO YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT THE NOX NYCTORES?
I THOUGHT THAT INFORMATION WAS CLASSIFIED..
WELL... WE ARE THE INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT, AFTER ALL...
IN ANY CASE, PLEASE HURRY TO THE REGIONAL BRANCH OF THE LIBARIUM
!!
REGIONAL BRANCH?
BECAUSE IT'S A SECRET MISSION. I'M AFRAID I WON'T BE ABLE TO HELP MUCH IF WE STAY HERE.

THE HELPLESS LIEUTENANT SUDDENLY CHANGES!?
WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE THE NOX NYCTORES..?

AD2194

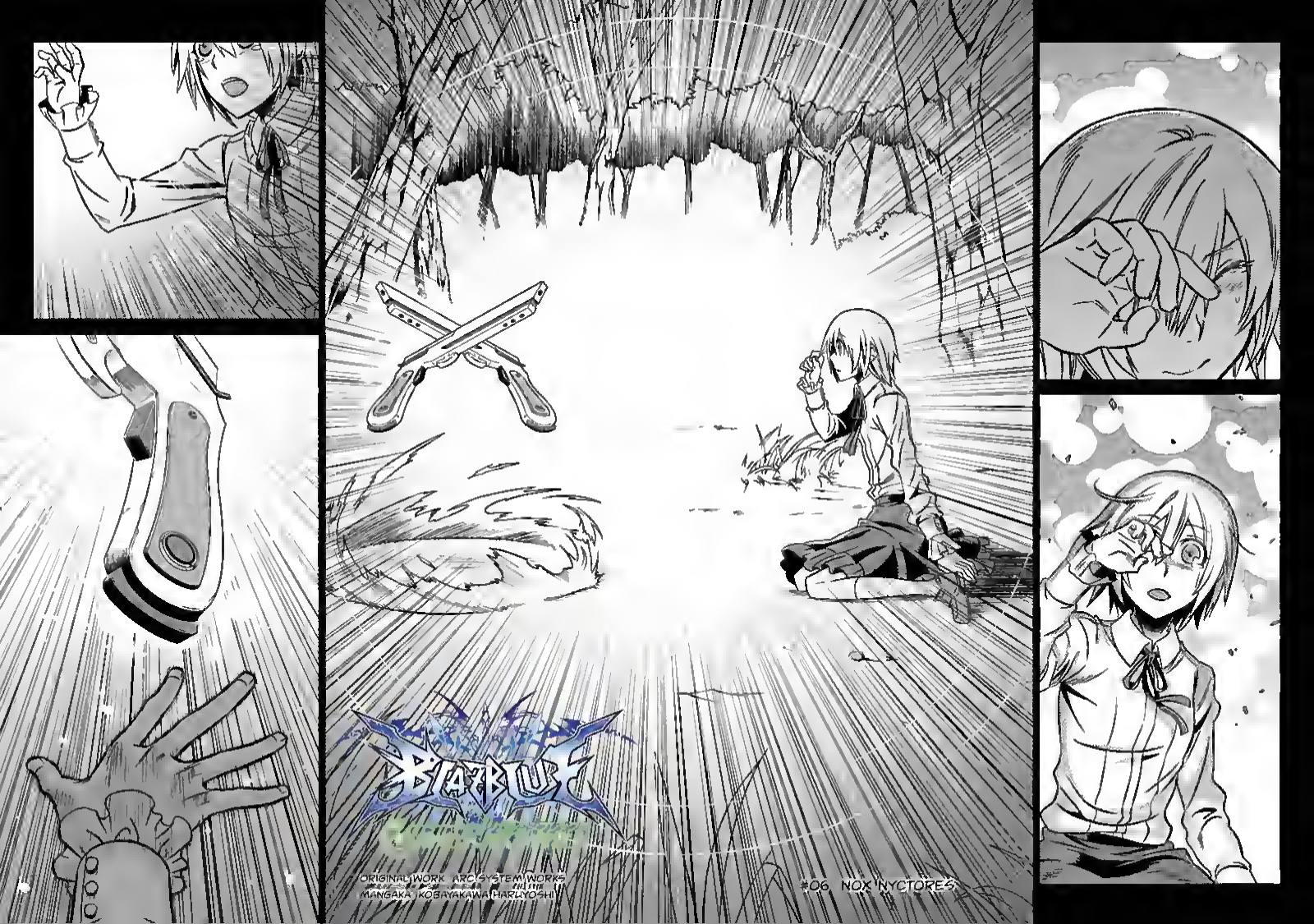

AN UNKNOWN EXPLOSION OCCURRED WITHIN THE CURRENTLY WARRING IKARUGA FEDERATION.
DUE TO THIS INCIDENT, THE FIFTH HIERARCHICAL CITY IBUKIDO, IS NOW IN SHAMBLES.
NEIGHBORING HIERARCHICAL CITIES ARE ALSO EXPERIENCING SEVERE DAMAGE...

NOEL VERMILLION--HER PAST AND IRREPLACEABLE WEAPONS


ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL SOURCES, A LARGE SURGE OF ARS ARMAGUS WITHIN IBUKIDO WAS NOT THE CAUSE FOR THE EXPLOSION
THE NOVUS ORBUS LIBRARIUM ARE CURRENTLY INVESTIGATING THE CAUSE OF THIS...

WHO ARE YOU?

WHO ARE YOU?
YOU'RE NOT ME
THE IKARUGA FEDERATION HAVE OFFERED A TRUCE BECAUSE OF THE INDICENT
BUT THE LIBRARIUM HAS NOT GIVEN A DEFINITE RESPONSE.
3
FURTHERMORE, RESCUE WORK IS BEING DONE BY THE LIBRARIUM'S SIXTH DIVISION...


BLAZBLUE
ORIGINAL WORK ARC SYSTEM WORKS
MANGA KOBAYAKAWA HARUYOSHI
#06 NOX NYCTORES

THIS HIGH ENERGY RESPONSE IS !?
WHY CAN THIS GIRL USE SO MUCH..?

... TAGER.
CAN YOU HEAR ME?
KOKO-NOE?
SORRY I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF SOME-THING RIGHT NOW
I'VE LOOKED AT THE POINT OF ARRIVAL.
GO TO THE COORDI-NATES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
... UNDER-STOOD.

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS POWER..?
SHE'S NOT IN THE...
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, TAGER!?
QUIT PLAYING AROUND AND DEAL WITH THE LIBRARY ALREADY!!
YOU ORDER TOO MUCH FROM ME...
...HONESTLY

I TAKE MY LEAVE...!
I THINK IT'S TIME
THREAT LEVEL DECREASED TO C MINUS.
HUH!?
I WON... DIDN'T I?
WHERE'S THE RED DEVIL!?
H-HUH...?
I... I...
WH...

THAT'S BECAUSE WHEN I'M FIGHTING, IT'S NOT REALLY ME FIGHTING
IT'S BOLVERK THAT DOES IT.
WHEN I'M FIGHTING, I DON'T THINK ABOUT ANYTHING
I'D BE PRETTY USELESS IF I DIDN'T HAVE IT.
THAT'S WHY BOLVERK IS SO IMPORTANT TO ME.
...BUT... SOMETIMES I WONDER... IS IT MY WILL THAT MOVES ME?
AM... AM I REALLY MYSELF RIGHT NOW?
IT'S THE SAME AS THAT THING OF YOURS.
THE WIELDER'S SPIRIT UNDERGOES SOME SORT OF INFLUENCE WHEN USING IT...

I NEED TO HURRY TO THE BRANCH!
AH!
JUST WHAT ON EARTH ARE THEY?
THE NOX NYCTO-RES...
...IN SHORT ANY ORDINARY PERSON COULD ALSO USE THE SIMPLIFIED FORM OF SORCERY CALLED ARS MAGUS.
GRIMOIRES ARE NEEDED IN ORDER TO USE ARS MAGUS.
HMM, I SEE.
SO THEN, THE NOL MANAGES THEM ALL BECAUSE IT'D BE DANGEROUS FOR EVERYONE TO HAVE ONE, RIGHT?
YES... THE NOL WAS MADE FOR THAT REASON.
ARE YOU OKAY, NOEL? DO YOU UNDER-STAND?

Y... YEAH.
I THINK SO.
EVEN THOUGH WE MAY JUST SAY IT'S DANGEROUS AND LEAVE IT AT THAT, THERE ARE ACTUALLY RANKINGS FOR GRIMOIRES.
THERE ARE VARIOUS KINDS, FROM DANGEROUS TO SAFE.
FURTHERMORE THERE IS ALSO ANOTHER CLASS OF WEAPON THAT DOESN'T FIT IN INTO ANY OTHER CATEGORY
THE CAUSALITY WEAPONS KNOWN AS THE NOX NYCTORES.
Hmmm
ORIGINALLY, THE GRIMOIRES WERE ONLY MADE FOR THE PURPOSE OF FIGHTING THE BLACK BEAST.
HOWEVER, THE NOX NYCTORES WERE CREATED SPECIFICALLY TO COMBAT AGAINST THE BLACK BEAST.

THERE ARE NO DETAILED RECORDS OF THEM... HONESTLY, IT'S NOT SURE IF THE WEAPONS EVEN EXISTED IN THE FIRST PLACE.
THERE ARE TEN IN TOTAL, BUT THERE ARE DIFFERENT THEORIES CONCERNING THEIR ORIGIN.
HOWEVER, THERE'S RUMORS THAT THE SIX HEROES THEMSELVES USED THE WEAPONS, BUT EVEN THAT IS...
THEY'RE ALSO A NOX NYCTORES CLASS WEAPON
THE GUNS THAT I USE, BOLVERK..
AT THAT MOMENT, BOLVERK SUDDENLY APPEARED BEFORE ME.
I WAS ATTACKED BY A MONSTER IN THE FOREST I ALWAYS PLAYED IN
IT WAS SOMETIME AFTER I HAD BEEN TAKEN IN BY HOUSE VERMILLION.

AH... SORRY..
..EH?
ARE YOU LISTENING, NOEL?
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, WHY WAS I...
IN CONCLUSION.
BACK THEN, I DIDN'T THINK ABOUT IT MUCH, BUT...

NOEL, IF YOU WANT TO LEARN HOW TO USE ARMAGUS AND IMPROVE YOUR GRADES, THEN YOU SHOULDN'T BE SO SCATTER-BRAINED WHEN TAKING NOTES.
IS THAT TRUE?
That's what I said...
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN TALK TO THEM ABOUT THIS...
Ahaha
I WAS JUST REALLY FOCUSED...
SO, UH...
...I WONDER. I HAVEN'T SEEN ONE MYSELF, SO...
LIKE USING IT ON A MOUNTAIN WILL MAKE IT BLOW UP OR MAYBE A CITY COULD BE VAPORIZED IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE!
BUT HEY THESE NOX NYCTORES ARE PRETTY POWERFUL RIGHT?
SORRY... NOEL, MAKOTO. I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
JIN!
TSUBAKI.
DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT?

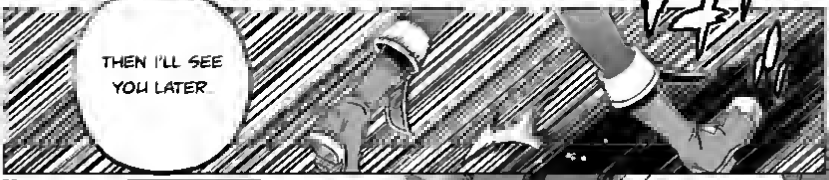
Y-YES... WHAT DID YOU NEED?
SORRY!
HAVE A SAFE TRIP!
AH... YEAH. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, TSUBAKI.
ABOUT THESE DOCUMENTS FROM THE OTHER DAY...
ARE YOU OKAY!?
MAJOR!!
MAJOR KISARAGI!!
19
OH, GOOD! WHAT PERFECT TIMING!
COULD THIS HAVE BEEN DONE BY RAGNA THE BLOODEDGE?
HE'S UNCONSCIOUS...
MOREOVER, THESE WOUNDS...

P. PERFECT TIMING...?
WELL THEN, IT'S SAFE TO SAY THAT THE MISSION IS COMPLETE...
HAZAMA!
LIEUTEN-ANT
ARE YOU BEING SERIOUS?
IF WE WERE A LITTLE LATE,
MAJOR WOULD HAVE..!

I DON'T THINK THAT'S EVEN POSSIBLE FOR TWO PEOPLE.
...
YOU?
YOU THINK YOU CAN STOP MAJOR KISARAGI AFTER HE GOES OUT OF CONTROL?

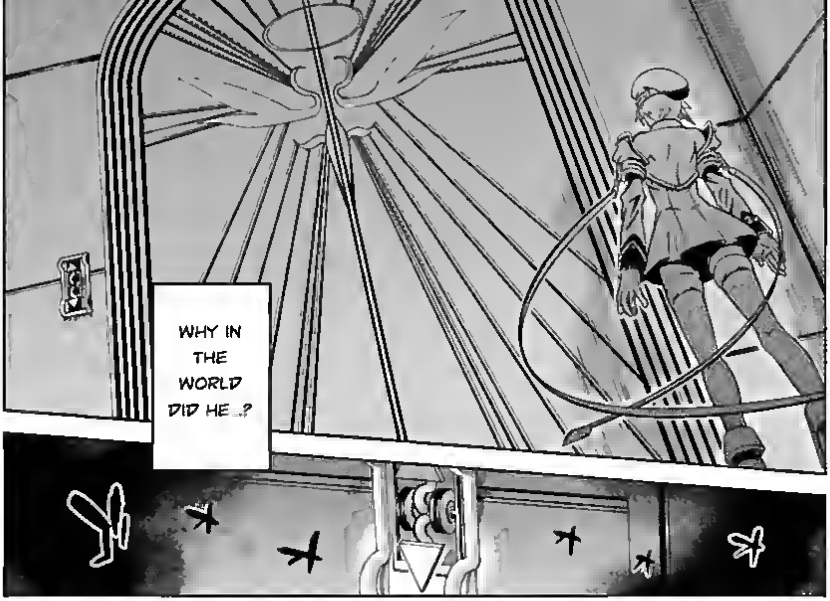
RAGNA THE BLOODEDGE WAS PROBABLY ALREADY HERE.
EVEN MORE SO IF IT'S SOMETHING EVEN THE MAJOR COULDN'T DEFEAT...
21
I HAVE TO SAY THAT THIS SITUATION IS QUITE CONVENIENT.
BECAUSE MY MISSION IS TO CAPTURE MAJOR JIN KISARAGI, RAGNA THE BLOODEDGE DOESN'T MATTER.
... BUT...!
IS SOMETHING WRONG, LIEUTENANT VERMILLION?
HAZAMA, PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THE MAJOR!
I... I'LL GO AFTER RAGNA THE BLOODEDGE, WHO I THINK WENT INSIDE!

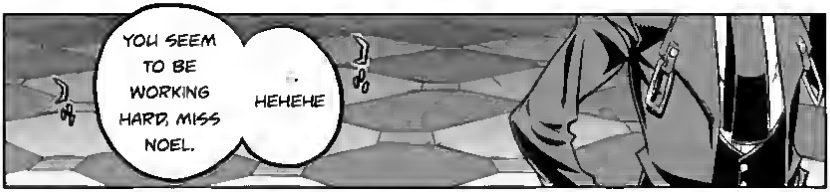
MY OTHER MISSION IS TO CAPTURE RAGNA!
..OH, IS THAT SO?
WELL, IF IT'S YOUR MISSION, THEN I SUPPOSE IT CAN'T BE HELPED


THEN I'LL SEE YOU LATER.

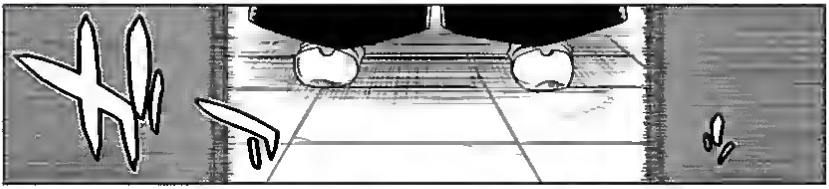
BUT EVER SINCE I CAME TO THE BRANCH, UNTIL REACHING THIS CATHEDRAL...
...I HAVEN'T SEEN ANYONE HERE.

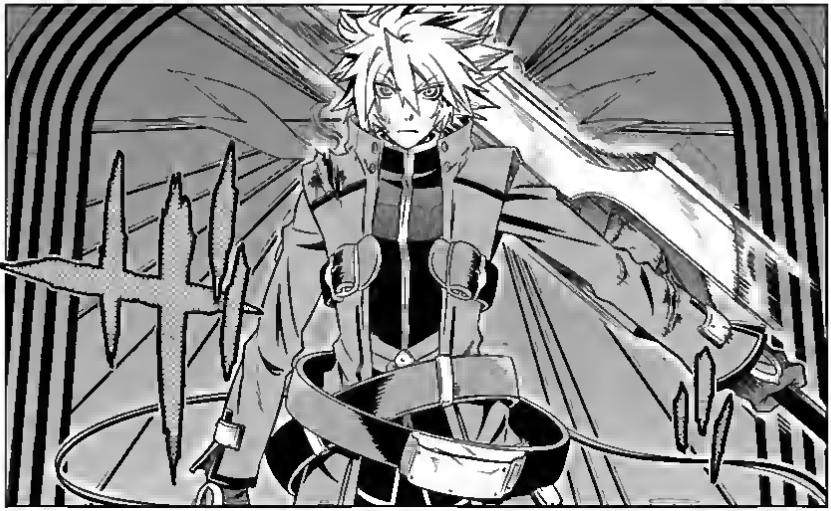
THERE'S NO WAY HAZAMA COULDN'T HAVE NOTICED IT.
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF NOBODY BEING AT AN NOL BRANCH BEFORE.
IF I LEAVE RAGNA ALONE, THE SITUATION WILL ONLY LEAD TO EVEN MORE SERIOUS PROBLEMS...!
...COME TO THINK OF IT, I DIDN'T NOTICE BEFORE...


WHY IN THE WORLD DID HE...?


YOU SEEM TO BE WORKING HARD, MISS NOEL.
HEHEHE

IF YOU DON'T TRY HARDER
I'LL BE IN TROUBLE.
...WELL.





I GUESS THIS PLACE REALLY DOES LOOK KINDA LIKE THE OTHER BRANCHES...

JUST WHEN I THOUGHT IT WAS TAKING TOO LONG...
IT FINALLY STOPPED

...NOW THEN...
SO YOU'VE ARRIVED ...
DARK ONE.

THE ONE WHO WILL DESTROY YOU.
THE BLACK GRIM REAPER AND THE WHITE HERO...?
DARK ONE.
YOU..
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU..?